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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method of assaying a sample of blood or blood components for the presence of 25-hydroxy-vitamin D comprising an immunoassay comprising:
  - (a) lowering the pH of the sample to 5.5 or less to dissociate the 25-hydroxy-vitamin D from vitamin D binding proteins;
  - (b) contacting the sample with an antibody specific for 25-hydroxy-vitamin D; and
  - (c) determining the concentration of 25-hydroxy-vitamin D in the sample by determining the amount of 25-hydroxy-vitamin D that is bound by the antibody specific for 25-hydroxy-vitamin D,wherein the vitamin D binding proteins are not removed from the sample before contacting the sample with ~~an~~ the antibody specific for 25-hydroxy-vitamin D.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of the sample is lowered to 5 or less.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of the sample is lowered to 4.5 or less.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pH of the sample is lowered to 4 or less.